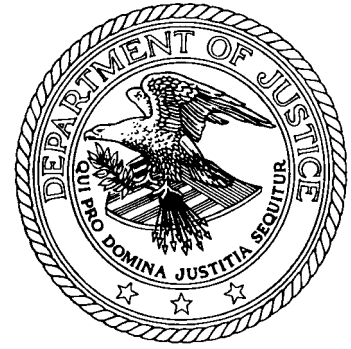


# ***NEWS RELEASE***

---



***OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA  
San Diego, California***

***United States Attorney  
Carol C. Lam***

---

***For Further Information, Contact: Assistant United States Attorney John Parmley (619) 557-6198***

---

***For Immediate Release***

**NEWS RELEASE SUMMARY** - October 25, 2004

United States Attorney Carol C. Lam announced that a federal court in San Diego today sentenced James Robert Harer to serve 12 months in custody for his role in sending two threatening letters laced with inert white powder to an employee of the Internal Revenue Service. Harer had previously entered a guilty plea to an indictment charging him with sending threatening communications through the mail. United States District Court Judge Irma E. Gonzalez also ordered that the defendant serve a three-year term of supervised release following his release from imprisonment.

Assistant U.S. Attorney John Parmley, who prosecuted the case, informed the Court at sentencing that the defendant was unhappy with the fact that he was being audited by the IRS, so he mailed two threatening letters to the auditor assigned to his case. Harer's conduct resulted in portions of the Federal Building being evacuated as a precautionary measure.

United States Attorney Lam stated, "We will not tolerate threats or hoaxes intended to intimidate federal employees in the performance of their official duties."

**DEFENDANT**

James Robert Harer

**SUMMARY OF KEY CHARGES**

Number of Defendants: One

Violations: Title 18, U.S.C. § 876 - Mailing Threatening Communications

Maximum penalty of ten years' imprisonment and/or a \$250,000 fine.

**AGENCIES**

Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration

United States Postal Inspectors